

**CLAIMS:**

B > WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A speech recognition apparatus including:  
an audio cancellation module, including:  
an audio input for receiving an audio signal from a microphone;  
an audio input for receiving an audio signal from an audio source;  
the audio cancellation module being operative to produce a speech signal by canceling the audio source signal from the microphone signal; and  
a speech recognizer for recognizing at least part of the speech signal;  
characterized in that the audio cancellation module includes at least two audio inputs for receiving audio signals from respective independent audio sources; and in that the audio cancellation module is operative to produce the speech signal by canceling at least two of the independent audio source signals from the microphone signal.
2. A speech recognition apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the speech recognition apparatus includes a controller for, in response to a spoken instruction of a user as recognized by the speech recognizer, issuing at least one command message to a further apparatus via a control communication network.
3. A speech recognition apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the controller is operative to issue the at least one command message according to remote control messages associated with the further apparatus.
4. A speech recognition apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one of the audio signals is received via an audio communication network from an audio source external to the speech recognition apparatus.
5. A speech recognition apparatus as claimed in claim 3 and 4, wherein the audio communication network is the same as the control communication network.

6. A speech recognition apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the speech recognition apparatus includes at least one audio input for receiving an audio signal from an audio source external to the speech recognition apparatus; the audio signal being received substantially for the purpose of canceling this audio signal from the microphone signal.

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7.  
A consumer electronics system including:

at least two audio source apparatuses;

an audio cancellation module, including:

an audio input for receiving an audio signal from a microphone; and

10 at least two audio inputs for receiving independent audio signals from respective ones of the audio source apparatuses;

the audio cancellation module being operative to produce a speech signal by canceling at least two of the independent audio source signals from the microphone signal; and

15 a speech recognizer for recognizing at least part of the speech signal.

8. A system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the system includes a control unit for, in response to a spoken instruction of a user as recognized by the speech recognizer, issuing at least one command message to an apparatus in the system via a communication network.

20 9. A system as claimed in claim 8, wherein at least one of the audio signals is received via the communication network from the associated audio source apparatus.

10. A system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the audio cancellation module is  
25 located in an apparatus of the system, where the apparatus includes at least one audio input for receiving an audio signal from an audio source apparatus external to the apparatus; the audio signal being received substantially for the purpose of canceling this audio signal from the microphone signal.

30 11. An audio cancellation module, including:  
an audio input for receiving an audio signal from a microphone;  
at least two audio inputs for receiving audio signals from respective independent audio sources;

the audio cancellation module being operative to produce a speech signal by canceling at least two of the independent audio source signals from the microphone signal.

[illegible]